

Andrew Jackson to Stephen Simpson, November 23, 1825, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO STEPHEN SIMPSON.¹

¹ Formerly editor of the *Columbian Observer*, Philadelphia newspaper.

Hermitage, November 23, 1825.

D'r Sir, yours of the 3d instant is Just recd. Whatever may be the opinion of the public on the subject of a Conductor of a newspaper addressing a candidate for the Presidency by letter, in the present instance no evil imputations could Justly arise. I never have obtruded my name upon the nation as a candidate. I have always been brought forward by the nomination of the people, the support given therefore through the columns of the paper conducted by you, must be ascribed to the principles of patriotism, in support of the people will and could not be ascribed to any different cause. for myself I pursue always the course my Judgt points, regardless of the imputations of the wicked, and will at all times be happy to receive any communication you may be pleased to make to me—but as in the present case, where business called, it required no apology. . . .

I am pleased to learn that the honest patriot Mr George Kreamer² is with you, and that his stern integrity and virtue is truly appreciated by the good citizens of Pensylvania. So long as virtue and integrity is cherished, and predominates over corruption and intrigue; so long will the honest George Kreamer live in the hearts of the american people.

² In his letter, sending Jackson a bill for his subscription, Simpson alluded to Kremer, and apologized for intruding on Jackson's time, using the following language:

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“Although it is prohibited to the conductor of a newspaper, to Address a Candidate for the Presidency without subjecting him to evil imputations; yet I flatter myself that a *ci-divant* Editor may be free from that suspicion; but in case that should not remove all objection, I have still another justification for the present Letter, if one is needed—that I write on business. So much has been written in the public papers, as well as expressed in conversation, about the impropriety of a Candidate holding correspondence with any human being, that a foreigner would imagine we were too thoroughly corrupt to permit the usual interchange of social civilities, without contamination. As this is a doctrine I most heartily despise, I can pay it no other regard than to say I condemn it; still, however, *delicacy* towards you, sir, restrains me from infringing on its precepts.”

I congratulate you on the birth of your fine daughter, may she grow and prosper, may she live to become an ornament to her sex, and a blessing to her parents in their declining years. accept I pray you my sincere thanks for the honor you intended me had it been a son and receive assurance of my respect and esteem.